

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 5, 11, 15 and 17 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 1 and 10 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus comprising:
a selection circuit for selecting a channel in a received broadcast signal;
a recording device that is capable of recording a program broadcasted on the selected channel selected by the selection circuit;
an operation unit for setting an elapsed time threshold that is compared to a selected time period during which the channel broadcasting the program is selected by the selection circuit, in order for the program to be recorded automatically; and
a control unit for performing control with regard to measuring the selected time period and recording the program; and[[,]]
a memory unit for storing the selected time period measured by the control unit.

wherein the control unit (a) measures a selected time period during which the channel broadcasting the program is selected while correlating the selected time period with program information of the program in a case where the selection circuit selects the channel, (b) interrupts measuring the selected time period while storing the selected time period into the memory unit in a case where the selected channel is changed to another channel and restarts the measurement in a case where the channel is selected again so as to view a program relating to the selected time period stored in the memory unit, and (c) performs control to record the program broadcasted on the selected channel on the recording device in a case where the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold set via the operation unit.

2 -5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the operating unit is capable of setting a period of time in which the control unit performs control to record the program automatically, and

wherein the control unit, in the period of time set via the operating unit, measures a time period during which the channel is selected in a case where the selection circuit selects the channel, and performs control to record the program broadcasted on the selected channel on the recording device in a case where the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold set via the operation unit.

7 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a character output unit for displaying character information on a display unit for displaying an image,

wherein the control unit controls the character output unit such that character information which represents advance notice concerning the start of the recording is displayed on the display unit.

10. (Currently Amended) A broadcast signal recording method comprising:
a process for selecting ~~an arbitrary~~ a channel in a received broadcast signal;
a process for setting an elapsed time threshold;
a process for measuring a selected time of the selected channel; and

a process for recording a program broadcasted on the selected channel, in a case where the selected time exceeds the elapsed time threshold,

wherein the selected time of the selected channel is measured while correlating the selected time with program information of a program which the channel is broadcasting,

wherein in a case where the selected channel is changed to another channel, the measurement of the selected time is interrupted and the measured time is stored into a memory unit, and

wherein in a case where the channel is selected again so as to view a program relating to the selected time stored in the memory unit, the measurement of the selected time is restarted.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a process for setting a period of time in which the control of automatically recording a program is performed,

wherein the process for recording a program is performed only during the set period of time.

13. (Previously Presented) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a process for displaying character information which represents advance notice concerning the start of the recording.

14. (Previously Presented) A broadcast signal receiving apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the control unit does not perform control to record the program in a case where a viewer performs an operation for canceling or recording before the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A broadcast signal recording method according to claim 10, wherein the process for recording the program is not executed in a case where a viewer performs an operation for canceling recording before the measured time period exceeds the elapsed time threshold.

17. (Cancelled)